

Application No. 10/813,532
Amendment dated April 24, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 24, 2006

Docket No.: 29171/39345

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 9, lines 17-32 with the following rewritten paragraph.

Still another preferred embodiment is the use of carbon nanotubes as shown in Figs. 12 and 13. Carbon nanotubes (CNTs) have been available since 1991 and exhibit excellent stiffness, resilience and strength. In addition to e CNTs, other types of nanotubes and nanorods are available including, but not limited to nanotubes and nanorods made from Al_2O_3 , BN and other various oxides. Such nanotubes and nanorods can have an elastic stiffness comparable to that of diamonds (1,000 GPa) but can be ten times ~~strong~~ stronger than diamonds. Nanotubes and nanorods are approximately 100 times stronger than most steels and about 1/6 of the weight of most steels. Nanotubes and nanorods may have exceedingly small dimensions (1-20 nm in diameter). The small size of such nanotubes and nanorods 35 allows the nanotubes 35 to remain inside the closed cells 32 and against the cell walls 33 as shown in Fig. 13. Referring back to Fig. 12, nanotubes or nanorods 35 may be approximately 1 to 2 nm in diameter and range from about 0.1 to about 50 μm in length. The small dimensions allow the nanotubes or nanorods to stay within inside the cell walls 33 as shown in Fig. 13 without penetrating through the cell walls 33 thereby generating an optimal strengthening affect.